

12-14-2020

This Christmas will be one of the hardest holiday seasons we will endure this year here at Sheyenne Care Center due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the restriction that is placed on LTC facilities. Even though we are in a downward swing with our county positivity and a downward swing with Sheyenne Care Center positivity numbers, we will still struggle with the restriction we will have to follow.

Due to the COVID-19, CMS and Health Department requirements for visitation are in place because of the in-house positivity we have happening with residents and staff. Their requirement for Sheyenne Care Center is still considered an outbreak which means we would need to go 2 weeks positive-free before the restriction is lifted. I'm thankful to say we are moving in the right direction but it still makes Christmas and New Year's a difficult time for residents and families to celebrate this holiday season together. Staff will do whatever we can to try and connect residents with families together during this time as much as possible.

Last week the Sheyenne Care Center COVID test occurred on Tuesday (12/07) and Friday (12/10). I'm pleased to report that the numbers of positivity continue to go down considerably with both residents and staff. The residents who continue to test positive are moved into isolation and families have been contacted and are being cared for by our caring staff. Our employee's test results also continue to come back negative which is a very good sign for residents and co-workers. The State Health Department Lab is moving Sheyenne Care Center to test once a week through the State Lab. This means that we will be doing the other weekly COVID test ourselves through a testing system that will give us results in 15 to 20 minutes.

I truly appreciate the staff and their understanding and the importance of making sure we do what we need to do at any time throughout the day.

Our next COVID testing period is December 14th and December 18th. Please continue to be safe, social distant, wear a mask, and wash hands / sanitize frequently to protect yourself and others from this virus.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact me or the nurse manager in the area in which your loved one lives.

Thank you and be safe.

Merry Christmas